

05-26-04

IFW 16348

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Dated: May 24, 2004

Signature:

Linda Blake
(Linda Blake)Docket No.: GSIM-P01-006
(PATENT)**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:

Heath et al.

Confirmation No.: 8977

Application No.: 09/241636

Art Unit: 1634

Filed: February 2, 1999

Examiner: Jeanine Anne Goldbert

For: PROCESSES FOR ISOLATING, AMPLIFYING
AND CHARACTERIZING DNA

May 24, 2004

COMMUNICATION IN RESPONSE TO MARCH 22, 2004 NOTICE OF NON-**COMPLIANT****AMENDMENT (37 CFR 1.121)**

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This Communication is being filed in reply to a Notice of Non-compliant Amendment (the "Notice") mailed March 22, 2004, in connection with the above application. The Notice provides a one-month period for response. Therefore, a response was due on April 22, 2004. Applicants are concurrently petitioning for a one-month extension of time, extending the period for reply to May 22, 2004. However, since May 22, 2004 was a Saturday, pursuant to 37 CFR §1.7, a response may be filed on the next succeeding day which is not a Saturday, Sunday or federal holiday, i.e. Monday, May 24, 2004. Accordingly, this Communication is being timely filed within the one-month extended deadline.

The Notice states that a separate sheet listing all the claims is not present in the Amendment filed on March 9, 2004. Accordingly, Applicants are providing a complete listing of the claims starting on page 2, which will replace all prior listings.